



ECO Steering Group Minutes
21 February 2014 | 10.00 am | 3 Whitehall Place

Actions from the previous meeting held on 10 January 2014

Action:

- Steering Group members to send views to DECC on non-delivery/non-payment of contracts – **ON-GOING**
- Steering Group members views were sought on the need for changes to the brokerage operation and/or contact– **ON-GOING**

ECO Consultation

A presentation was made on the Future of the Energy Company Obligation; this set out the key points in the 2 December Ministerial announcement, the timetable that DECC would need to follow to ensure that the legislation is laid before Parliament rises for the summer recess, and also gave details of a series of stakeholder workshops that would be held in support of the consultation process.

ECO and Blended Finance – encouraging blended finance

A presentation was given by the Green Deal Consortia. The presentation covered areas for improvement, the wider benefits of blending, different forms of blending, different finance options, thoughts on proposals for the Green Deal and encouraging Green Deal Providers/Installers to consider other forms of finance such as the Renewable Heat Incentive, Feed-in-Tariffs and addressing the 'patchwork' effect.

ECO Action Plan

DECC gave a presentation on the ECO Delivery Action Plan explaining how the Action Plan is being refreshed to ensure that it focussed on current policy challenges. The scope of the Action Plan is steps DECC can take to support delivery of ECO. It would in future include focus on actions on communications, the evidence base and how DECC could support delivery.

DECC gave a presentation on additional data matching opportunities for the Affordable Warmth Group (AWG). It was explained that two options (bulk data check and real time check) would be available for obligated suppliers and Green Deal Providers (GDPs) to pursue in order to facilitate the establishment of a pre-installation AWG verification service. Agreement had been reached with DWP and Ofgem on a proposed framework and following the meeting, a letter would be sent to all obligated suppliers and GDPs announcing the framework and inviting participation in initial discussions to take this forward with a deadline for responses of 12 March.

Ofgem update

Ofgem advised that they had now approved 289,000 measures, and would be setting the level of individual energy supplier obligations during the next month.

There had been a positive drop in the number of data reporting errors which was acknowledged as being a result of the work undertaken by the Data Reporting Group.

Any other Business

The National Insulation Association drew attention to the large number of press reports concerning ECO job losses and acknowledged the impact such attention could have upon the policy for all. They believed that there were significant advantages to having a meeting involving Energy UK, Energy Suppliers, the National Housing Federation and the National Insulation Association to come up with a standard press line which all could use in response to these reports.

Action: *National Insulation Association to liaise with interested parties.*

Date of next meeting

28 March 2014 in the DECC Conference Suite, 3 Whitehall Place.